

SOUTH CAROLINA CAREER GUIDANCE EFFECTIVE EXERCISES

TITLE: DIVERSITY IN THE WORKFORCE

SUBJECT: Guidance Activity

GRADE LEVEL(S): 6-8

SC Career Guidance Standard/Competency

- Learning to Work: Standard 1. Students will understand the relationship among personal qualities, education and training, and the world of work.
Competency 1.4. Identify a variety of traditional and nontraditional careers.

National Career Development Guidelines Goal/Indicator

- Career Management: GOAL CM3. Use accurate, current, and unbiased career information during career planning and management.
Indicator CM3.K5. Identify occupations you might consider without regard to your gender, race, culture, or ability.

Lesson Objectives

1. Students explain the term “nontraditional career.”
2. Students identify at least two nontraditional careers for women and two nontraditional careers for men.
3. Students learn about a career from a woman’s perspective by interviewing a woman they know.
4. Students identify at least one nontraditional career they might consider.

Assessment

1. Students interview a woman they know about her career and complete the Career Questionnaire worksheet.

Preparation

- Prior Learning—NA
- Handouts/Worksheets—*Career Questionnaire* worksheet
- Resources—Optional: SCOIS, O*Net (www.onetcenter.org), Occupational Outlook Handbook, and other career information books/videos
- Time Required—60 minutes plus home assignment

Procedures

Part One (30 minutes)

- Introduce the term “nontraditional career” by asking students what they think it means. After a brief discussion of their ideas, tell the students that a nontraditional career for a woman is one in which only 25% of the workers are female. A nontraditional career for a man is one in which only 25% of the workers are male.

- Have students brainstorm the names of some careers they think might be nontraditional for women, for men. Write the list on the chalkboard.
- Engage students in a discussion of whether or not they would consider working in a nontraditional career. What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of working in a nontraditional career?
- Tell students they are to interview a woman they know about her career.
- Give students a copy of the *Career Questionnaire* worksheet and review the questions on it, as well as appropriate behavior when interviewing someone.

Part Two (30 minutes)

- After students have conducted the interview and completed the worksheet, have them briefly share some information from the interview. List the careers the women held. Are any of the careers nontraditional careers? Are any of the careers of interest to the students? What kind of education and training was required? What did the students learn from this experience?
- Suggest to students that they might use SCOIS, O*Net (www.onetcenter.org), or visit the library to further explore occupations.

Career Questionnaire

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Part 1—Interview a woman you know about her career. She might be a member of your family, a neighbor, or someone from school or the community. Write the answers to the interview questions below.

Part 1

Career/Job Name _____

1. What do you like best about your career?
2. What do you like least about your career?
3. How does the career match with your interests?
4. What skills and abilities do you need for your career?
5. What high school courses do you think would help a person prepare for a career like yours?
6. What education/training after high school is required for your career?
7. What is the salary range for your career? _____
8. What is the employment outlook for your career in our local area? ____
In South Carolina? _____ Nationally? _____

9. What company do you work for? _____

How do you get to work? _____

10. What advice would you give someone about choosing a career?

Directions: Part 2—Think about our discussions in class about nontraditional careers. Complete Part 2 below.

Part 2

1. What does the term “nontraditional career” mean?

2. List two nontraditional careers for women.

3. List two nontraditional careers for men.

4. Name one nontraditional career you might consider.